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Reissue(T102)

From: NEW YORK

To: MOSCOW

No: 598-599

2 May 1944

[Part I] We are transmitting information written down by RULEVOJ[1] after a conversation with Ekho[ii].

1. As regards the re-election of ROOSEVELT financial and business groups are on the whole non-committal[a]. They openly support DEWEY much more than any other candidate ~~but in support of ROOSEVELT they say~~ very [D% little]. On the whole these circles leave the question open refraining from judgment. Such sharp propaganda of hate toward ROOSEVELT, as came out earlier from these circles, is no longer being carried on;

[36 groups unrecoverable]

[v] ROOSEVELT (the end of April) the labor movement and the party machine of the Democratic party are for the most part carrying on. In the political circles of the Catholic Church ~~those who~~ had come out earlier against ROOSEVELT ~~now are~~ beginning [3 groups unrecovered]; FARLEY who is [3 groups unrecovered] church circles has gone over from the opposition to a neutral position. TOBIN who is a strong influence in the Church is at present leading a movement for ROOSEVELT in the circles of the AFL[AFT][iii]. The new Catholic group which is being led by Supreme Court Justice MURPHY is developing ~~in the~~ activity, striving for the public support of ROOSEVELT and preparing ~~open admissions of him~~ ~~it is~~ is widely attracting prominent Catholics. Among the Republicans who were former WILKIE supporters there is a growing tendency toward going over to the side of ROOSEVELT.

3. The strategy of the Republicans still has not clearly been defined. The basic tendency apparently lies in the temptation of all

[19 groups unrecovered]

on internal questions

[62 groups unrecovered]
[29 groups unrecoverable]

[Part II] 4. Opposition to ROOSEVELT in congress is sabotaging all ROOSEVELT's undertakings, with the exception of direct military appropriations. However the Democrats who stand in opposition to ROOSEVELT consider it impossible to remain in an anti-ROOSEVELT coalition during

[22 groups unrecovered]

against ROOSEVELT, but without any success. In [5 groups unrecovered]

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elections 80% of the Polish vote was [C% given] to the Democratic party, in comparison to the general figure of 65%. The British undoubtedly will support ROOSEVELT,

[37 groups unrecoverable]

will not budge. The Italian Social-Democrats together with former Fascists in every way possible are trying to turn the Italian-Americans against ROOSEVELT. An overwhelming majority of the Yugoslavs are for ROOSEVELT, even members of the mass organizations which are officially being led by supporters of MIKHAILOVICH. The majority will come out for ROOSEVELT. Various reactionary emigré groups [3 groups unrecovered] ROOSEVELT, but they cannot attract to their side even all of those who follow them in [2 groups unrecovered].

6. If the elections were to take place at the present time ROOSEVELT would probably receive an insignificant majority of the popular vote, but he would lose the election since the votes in his favor are strongly concentrated in the South, where the huge majority of votes on his behalf in the final total count no more than 51%. For the last two months ROOSEVELT has been slowly gaining strength, but not with such speed as

[7 groups unrecoverable]

only a favorable course of the war and some bold efforts of ROOSEVELT toward a more clear-cut definition of his policy before the masses could secure his re-election.

7. According to our speculations a second front will be launched during the next few weeks. A further delay would actually assure the accession to power of the Republicans.

8. As far as we have been able to learn, the financial and business circles completely share hopes for a quick [C% agreement]. The sharp fluctuations of the "New York Times" undoubtedly reflect the sentiments of some of the groups of these circles, but in our opinion not of the most decisive groups.

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MAJ[iv]

Notes: [a] "non-committal" given in Latin spell.

Comments:

- [i] RULEVOJ: i.e. "HELMSMAN," Earl BROWDER.
- [ii] EKHO: i.e. "ECHO," Bernard SCHUSTER.
- [iii] AFT: i.e. AMERIKANSKAYA FEDERATSIYA TRUDA, American Federation of Labor.
- [iv] MAJ: i.e. "MAY," Stepan APRESYAN.

16 March 1970

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